

To:

County of Los Angeles CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

713 KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION • LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012 (213) 974-1101 http://cao.co.la.ca.us

Board of Supervisors GLORIA MOLINA First District

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ZEV YAROSLAVSKY Third District

DON KNABE

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

Fifth District

October 29, 2003

Supervisor Yvonne Brathwaite Burke, Chair

Supervisor Gloria Molina Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky Supervisor Don Knabe

Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: David E. Janssen

Chief Administrative Officer

CONTRACT WITH THE CALIFORNIA YOUTH AUTHORITY FOR DETENTION SERVICES OF UNFIT JUVENILES CURRENTLY HOUSED AT MEN'S CENTRAL JAIL - SECOND STATUS REPORT

On July 8, 2003, on motion by Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, as amended by Supervisor Don Knabe, the Board instructed my office with the assistance of the County Counsel, Sheriff, and Chief Probation Officer, to negotiate and execute a contract with the California Youth Authority (CYA) for housing minors that the Court deems not appropriate for a juvenile facility, and for providing such minors with appropriate education, recreation, social and mental health services.

Final Contract - Executed by Chief Administrative Office and CYA

On October 2, 2003, my office provided your Board with our initial status report and a copy of the final draft contract to house a maximum of 48 unfit juveniles at the Southern Youth Correctional Reception Center and Clinic in the City of Norwalk (Norwalk facility). We advised your Board that the final contract was pending execution by the CYA and the Chief Administrative Office.

In addition, we indicated that on September 30, 2003, representatives from the CYA, Fourth Supervisorial District, Sheriff, Probation, and my office met with the City of Norwalk Manager to ensure any concerns had been addressed, prior to executing the contract. We also indicated that at the request of the Norwalk City Manger, the City's Council members would be provided a tour of the Norwalk facility. The City of Norwalk tour has been arranged for October 29, 2003. The City Council members have

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reviewed the Sheriff's Department recommendations resulting from their security assessment of CYA's Norwalk facility, as well as CYA's response to the recommendations, and have indicated that they do not have any security concerns. Consequently, our office has executed the contract which has been forwarded to the CYA for full execution.

Conclusion

The City of Norwalk requested a news release to ensure that the Norwalk community is advised of our intent to implement this contract. This news release was issued by the County on Friday, October 24, 2003 and is attached for your reference. Contract implementation is scheduled to occur in one week.

We will continue to keep your Board apprised of any significant developments. Please call me or your staff may call Eva Snider at (213) 974-2291, if you have any questions or if additional information is necessary at this time.

DEJ:DL ES:AL:vyg

Attachment

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Presiding Judge, Juvenile Court
Supervising Judge, Criminal Division, Superior Court
Sheriff
District Attorney
Alternate Pubic Defender
Chief Probation Officer
Public Defender
City of Norwalk Managers



PRESS RELEASE

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Contact: Judy Hammond, Director of Public Affairs, (213) 974-1363 Victoria Pipkin, Assistant Director, (213) 974-1652

Oct. 24, 2003

JUVENILES TO BE TRANSFERRED FROM MEN'S CENTRAL JAIL

The County of Los Angeles will begin the first week of November transferring juveniles being held at Men's Central Jail to the California Youth Authority (CYA) facility in Norwalk.

Chief Administrative Officer David Janssen is scheduled to sign an agreement with the State on Monday, Oct. 27 to allow the transfers to proceed.

The County Board of Supervisors in July directed staff to find an alternative to housing the juveniles at the jail. Members of the community had raised concerns about the appropriateness of keeping the youths at the adult facility.

On the motion of Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, the Board asked staff to negotiate a contract with CYA to house minors that the court deemed not appropriate for a juvenile facility, and provide to them education, recreation, social and mental health services at an augmented level than is available at the County facility.

"This transfer will provide safe, secure housing," Yaroslavsky explained, "and creates an environment in which both treatment and education can continue as the juveniles await adjudication of their cases."

The County, CYA and the City of Norwalk have met to ensure a smooth transition and to alleviate any security concerns, and the Sheriff's Department did a comprehensive security audit of the facility, which resulted in some enhancements, including installation of a high-perimeter fence and additional closed-circuit cameras.

Additional security staff will be used to ensure safe movements of juveniles to and from classrooms, during recreation times, and around the perimeter of the living unit.

With the enhancements, the City of Norwalk indicated it did not object to the transfer of the youths.

"We appreciate the support we received from the City of Norwalk," said Supervisor Don Knabe, who represents that city. "The placement of these juveniles in this existing CYA facility poses no additional risk. A majority of these Los Angeles County juveniles are in the same age range as the other CYA wards."

The contract provides that the juveniles will be segregated from the CYA ward population, and will receive a similar level of treatment, education and other services provided to existing CYA wards.

The agreement provides for a maximum of 48 juveniles from the County to be housed at CYA's Southern Youth Reception Center and Clinic, located at 13200 S. Bloomfield Ave. Currently there are 30 youths at Men's Central Jail who will be transferred.

As of Oct. 23, CYA's population at the Norwalk facility was 324 wards.

The local contract is modeled after one that CYA has with the County of Monterey. Up to 48 Monterey County juveniles who have been revoked on probation are presently housed at the El Paso de Robles Youth Correction Facility near Paso Robles in San Luis Obispo County.